Iron County Register.

BY ELI D. AKE.

IRONTON, : : MISSOURI.

A PRISONER OF HOPE.

To sit and watch in the lonely house
Whence others have risen and gone their way—
So hush'd and still that the wainscot mouse
Creeps out on my hearth to play;
To hear the hurrying folk go by,
Their echoing feet the silence fill—
The world is busy enough, but I
In the midst of it all sit still!

To wait, through the tide runs far and fast,
To share the story, yet turn no page,
To dwell in the heart of a vanished Past
With friends of a bygone age;
The living about me come and go,
But these have done with earth's toils and tears,
And I follow with faltering step and slow,
In the wake of the tedious years.

A broken weapon that's flung aside,
A worn-out tool for which none need care—
Sometimes I fancy I must have died,
And that only a ghost sits there!
Yet the Dead no longer can feel the strain
Of the nerveless hand and the powerless limb,
And the weariness even worse than pain
That comes when Life's lamp burns dim!

Often I think the hour of dawn,
When the faint light glimmers on wall and floor,
And the curtains of night are half withdrawn,
Is the worst in the twenty-four!
How long will it be ere the tardy gleam
Of sunset fires the golden west?
It is less hard then just to watch and dream
When even the toilers rest.

And when stars come out o'er the twilight sea,
There falls on my soul a peace profound,
As I think of a Hand that once set free
The Spirits in Prison bound;
One day He will burst these bonds of mine—
And perchance there is good work yet undone
He is keeping for me in His Love divine
In the Land beyond the Sun!
—Christian Burke, in Good Words.

HER LADYSHIP

HER LADYSHIP won her name because of a certain touch of dignity evident when she pressed her ten toes to the floor and stood erect in her flannelette bedgown waiting for her nightly dismissal.

Then her wisps of hair were worked into "candle ends" and drawn away from her wonderful white ears, and she held fast in her bosom and lavished her love on a hideous Indian mahogany doll, which she called "Katie's dreffful black baby."

She was a born woman, standing three feet one; a Turk, a Terror and a Tyrant; a delicious lapful, and aged three years.

Katie's dada was an underwriter in Cornhill. Fitting initials under ships' names on slips of paper day by day seemed, in abstract, a simple enough thing to do. Yet he had served many toilsome years that he might sit No. 2 in a marine underwriting-room. He was deep-shouldered, large-limbed and a Kensington ratepayer. He had a taste for admiralty law, and a passion for athletics.

He was a "straight left," with the gloves, and a "good stick" at hockey, and could sprint a hundred in 11.

Kensington Gore was ornamented with polished Indian clubs and iron dumb-bells; cross foils were linked to the walls. There was, besides, a horizontal bar in the garden, and a punching ball suspended in his bedroom.

"Katie's mamma" was pink-fingered, petite and unpunctual, and as fair as gold. She made altar cloths, platonic acquaintances and wonderful shivering table jellies. With men she was "moody," and she had a pretty way with her words. Also she had a little money of her own.

All along her line of life—from cradle to corsets—she held in favor small things; forget-me-nots and tiny fairies, seed pearls and ponies, skye terriers and dainty Moorish slippers. And she ended, as is fit and seemingly, by marrying an extremely big husband, whom first she flouted, then feared, and finally was proud of. Now she rallied to the royal nod, pampered his appetites, pandered to his whims and generally killed the king with honey.

The fourth character is the other man. He was almost the very ordinary of nature's handiwork. He was not much to look upon, as the phrase runs. Still there were certain notes and touches appealing to the species feminine; the cultivated chivalry and the suggestion of strength; the practiced boyishness of his voice and manner, the carefully engendered atmosphere of mystery. (He was, in fact, so very secret a man that, instead of putting his eggs in open baskets, he concealed them in his tail pockets, and occasionally sat on them.)

"Katie's dada" was at this time in Cairo, swimming in the Nile and seeing to something about underwriting Egyptian halls.

She asked all her brothers and all his sisters to the house in North Grove, Highgate; and the other man came, too. So often, indeed, that people whispered and wrote to and fro! and women offered her cold cheeks, and men curious eyes, until she began to feel almost that the best way of stultifying criticism was to justify it.

Her sister, the credentialed disputant of the family honor, at last represented the general feeling in unmistakable terms.

But "Katie's mamma" was no culprit, and she burned in the cheeks and grew tall and beautiful to look upon. She felt, maybe, prospectively guilty, which is a most uncomfortable feeling.

"Jess," she said to her sister, "you may go to the place wherefrom the sulphur comes, and there you may sit on a coal and eat small sour apples."

He turned up soon after with some forced flowers and things, for she was dancing that evening to Willoughby's band. She confessed to her maid that she felt strangely fresh that evening. He said she looked "ravishing," and raved about "eternal devotion" and "a life of consecrated worship," and other strikingly absurd things. "Mabs, Mabs, trust me and test me, darling," he concluded.

The upshot was that, being a neglected wife and a woman of moods, she sent him away, and said she might meet him at eight, perhaps, at the grove, by the bar gate.

It was still a quarter to eight, and he stood there under a dripping umbrella, and the water tumbled from the leaves of the trees on to his shirt cuffs. A mail cart sheered past him and plashed him with rich running mud from the road.

That made him curse the driver, and he dug his heels into the clay and gravel, and comforted himself with a rehearsal of his first words when the lady should at last appear. He thought of the touch of her gloved hand, the poise of her chin above her furs, and the light that should live in her eye.

He did not—as men are said to do in crises—prejudge all that was to come. Yet now and again, in the full sound of passion, little biting notes came through like the sighing of a zephyr in a gale, and left him, that was strong, feverish, uncertain and a trifle trembly at the knees.

Jack Holden had always "done him well," had always offered him a whole hand and the choicest it was his to offer. Then ten—twenty—years into the future he sped forward and saw dimly; and the half sight left him nervous. He remembered how Mrs. Holden had looked one night when, tired, limp and with a pallid face, he had seen her at the fag end of all-in-the-morning ball.

It wanted still eight minutes to the appointed time, and the eager dampness had crept into his light boots, and at each turn he pressed the water from his sodden soles—like a game he used to play when a boy, called "sucker."

But if she would only come now, how all these troublesome thoughts would fly; if only he might see her coming him; if only he might feel her eyes and breath close to him here! "Oh, why doesn't she come?" he muttered, weakly and feverishly; "she didn't use to be unpunctual at other times."

A wayward hansom sputtered past him, and the whizzing wheels gave out mud which licked high and splashed his collar. He almost tasted the dirt. He was young—comparatively: he hadn't had much of a time in the world, really—other women there were; why should he bind himself fast and hard here and hereafter?

Of course, he felt sorry for Mabs. "Yes," he said to himself, "I feel uncommonly sorry for Mabs; but, then, women always get over these things somehow." Besides he was doing the right thing, and that was solace and succor to him. In a flame of virtue he whistled softly—almost to himself.

Then, in an instant, the alert vehicle veered, and the horse was brought to the dead halt at the curb by his side. "Cab, sir?" said the driver. "Yes!" said the Other Man, "and drive to the Empire."

She ate her dinner by herself, and at seven she dressed in front of a blazing bedroom fire.

Descending she stopped on the landing to feverishly fasten her last glove button. In her trembling she tore away the fastening. This made her feel illdressed and hot across the shoulders.

KATIE TO HER MAMMA.

She stopped at a little white door, where, on the panels, in riot and confusion, were tumbled those glutinous transferable pictures which children delight in. They draggled heads and tails all over the bottom panels. Cheerful and rubicund kings and smiling queens, in purple robes and topping yellow crowns; and monstrous goats and bears and wonderful rearing coal black elephants.

Katie's mamma thought naturally of the culprit. She remembered taxing and reprimanding her that same morning for a similar treason against the reigning law. "Or-wight," her Ladyship had said, "Katie do that no more, if possible."

And now as she waited a little softened figure showed itself at the door. It was gowned in pink flannel, and held out two irresistible arms, pearl-buttoned at the wristbands.

"You did that, Katie," her mother said, sternly, pointing to the desecrated panels.

"Me no do it," her Ladyship replied firmly; "Katie's dreffful black baby." Her Ladyship referred as the delinquent to the aforesaid mahogany abomination.

Then, watching her mother's gathering face, her untruthful and diplomatic Ladyship ran to her mother's skirts and said softly: "Katie seepy again."

Her brown hair had been ribboned away from her ears and now she stood back against the door, baring over her pink collar the whitest little neck in the world. Her mother's silence puzzled her, and she was afraid. She gathered in all her breath, bursting at last into an agony of tears.

"Katie goo' girl," she said, with her lips a-quiver. Her mother stooped to her and she threw up both her arms.

"'Es, 'es, 'es, mamma, mamma, tiss me," she said, brokenly.

It was here that "Katie's mamma" threw away her hooded cloak and accoutrements and spiked her hat several savage times with three long daggerpins. Moreover, she comforted Katie with tears and hugs and odd little laughs.

Afterward she wrote a long letter to her husband, telling him about Katie's advancement in learning and specializing some obviously impractical plans for the summer. It was really a very long letter. Then she gave orders that the front door be bolted and that Katie being restless, should sleep with her that night.

And all this while she was moved with pity for the Other Man—waiting and hoping, she thought—he who at this moment was racing down High street, Islington, behind a big cigar, thanking and praising his stars that he had not betarred his career and queered his season's pitch by running away with his neighbor's wife.

He thanked God, and then whistled. For such is the selfishness of Other Men.—Black and White

FROM KANSAS CITY.

Notes of the Democratic Convention by Our Washington Correspondent.

Contrast Between the Democratic National Convention and the Republican Performance—A Message of Hope—Enthusiasm Over Anti-Imperialism and Bryan.

[Special Correspondence.]

No sharper contrast could be imagined than that shown by the democratic national convention at Kansas City when compared with the republican performance at Philadelphia.

The latter was boss-ridden from start to finish. In the democratic convention no man, nor even any set of men dictated the proceedings.

In Philadelphia the reading of the platform was received with apathy and indifference.

At Kansas City the platform was received with unbounded enthusiasm. The plank naming "imperialism as the paramount issue" called forth a flag demonstration unequaled in the history of national conventions.

Among the democrats there was no cut-and-dried platform. The committee on resolutions held a fourteen-hour session, listening to all shades of opinion on the vital issues. The platform itself was written only three hours before it was presented to the convention. It satisfied everybody.

The republicans brought their white-house-manufactured platform to Philadelphia and then the leaders quarreled among themselves until the platform has become a public scandal.

Hope and Harmony.

The democratic platform is an application of the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and the letter of the constitution to the new and momentous issues which have arisen in the past three years. It is a message of hope and encouragement to every citizen who wants good government and who knows that it never can be compassed under a second term of this administration.

The temper and atmosphere of the democratic convention was very significant. There were gathered not only delegates from widely separated sections of the country, but also men, united as to the necessity for governmental reform, but differing widely on many details of the campaign.

It was a convention where dissension might easily have gained a foothold, unless repressed by some higher and stronger sentiment. There were no bosses to keep up an appearance of surface harmony, without regard to the real feeling, as at the republican convention. Everything was open, above board and spontaneous at the democratic convention.

The Anti-Imperialism Plank.

Those who came to criticise admitted that all minor differences were shelved in the face of the serious issues to be met.

It was the most enthusiastic political convention ever held in the country. It was at the same time the most earnest and sincere.

The outburst of enthusiasm over the anti-imperialist plank in the platform was entirely spontaneous. It was 30 minutes of flag waving, cheering, marching, waving of banners and singing of patriotic songs. There was something awe-inspiring in the contemplation of that vast assemblage set wild by an enthusiasm as grim and earnest and irrepressible as that of the Crusaders of old. It was the protest of the flag itself against imperialism.

Enthusiasm Over Bryan.

The fact that the nomination of Bryan was expected did not lessen the enthusiasm. The demonstration at the mention of his name showed how thoroughly he has fixed his place in the hearts of the people as the leader who is as great as his opportunity. There was affection and admiration and trust and loyalty in the enthusiasm which marked the nomination of Bryan.

At Philadelphia Mark Hanna had to force some shadow of enthusiasm for the name of McKinley. His puppets creaked when they clumsily obeyed his signals, and the hollowness of the whole farce was apparent to the most casual observer.

When Bryan was nominated the cheering and waving of flags lasted so long that it seemed as if the convention could not bring itself back to the transaction of routine business.

Stevenson's Nomination.

The nomination of the vice presidential candidate showed how thoroughly democratic was the Kansas City convention. An hour before Stevenson was nominated, no leader and no delegate could tell whether it would be he or Towne or Hill. It was simply a question of the best judgment of the convention. The nomination gives satisfaction all around. Stevenson adds strength to the ticket in the great middle western states, where the battle is being fought and where the decisive vote is to be cast. He is a thorough democrat, loyal to the platform and devoted to Bryan. Mr. Towne, while deservedly popular, felt that his nomination would not be the most advisable one and will work as hard for party success as though he were Bryan's running mate. Hill's declination, of course, put him out of the race, and it increased the chances of democratic success in New York state. Had Hill been nominated New York would have been torn asunder with factional fights.

The democratic national committee is preparing actively for the campaign. Along with the realization that it is to be a serious campaign against trust influences and republican machine organization, is the abiding certainty of a democratic victory next November.

ADOLPH PATTERSON.

——Prominent republicans, who heretofore were trusted and believed by men of all parties to be devoted to a republican form of government and individual liberty, have been stampeded and carried away by cant about "manifest destiny" and "a world power." They are ready to surrender the republic. The democratic party must save it.—Kansas City Times.

VOICES FROM THE PAST.

Prophetic Utterances of Washington and Webster Concerning Imperialism.

In his farewell address Washintgon warned his people against the time when aggregated wealth should become arrogant and tyrannical. His prophetic spirit foresaw the day of McKinleyism and trusts.

No less clearly did Lincoln foresee and foretell the very times that have come upon the country. His words of warning were:

"I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless."

His fears were not groundless. They have been realized in more terrible form than ever he imagined possible. His anxiety for his country was well-founded. There remains but one step in his prophecy unfulfilled—the destruction of the republic. All this is not past believing, unless the people shall rise in their might and overthrow the tyrant wealth, before it has subjected them to its power so completely that there is no relief except through the frightful method of war.

There was another great American in his day, now scorned and scoffed and held in contempt as a little American by the Hanna-McKinley quality. His name was Daniel Webster. He, too, with prophetic spirit divined the day of McKinleyism and warned the people against it. The seeds of imperialism had been sown in his day. Though he wrought mightily to exterminate them, up to the last day of his life he could not do so:

"Arbitrary governments may have territories and distant possessions, because arbitrary governments may rule by different laws and different systems. We can do no such things. They must be of us, part of us, or else strangers. I think I see a course adopted which is likely to turn the constitution of the land into a deformed monster, into a curse, rather than a blessing; in fancy, a frame of an unequal government, not founded on popular representation, not founded on equality, but on the grossest inequality; and I think that this process will go on, or that there is danger that it will go on, until this union shall fall to pieces. Resist it to-day and always! Whoever falters or whoever flies, I continue to contest!"

Either this must become an arbitrary government or we must give up colonial possessions. The genius of the constitution and law of the United States is opposed to different forms of government for different peoples of the nation. The constitution will become a deformed monster if it is made to mean one thing for part of our people and another thing for others. And once it becomes a deformed monster it may turn and devour its creators.

Webster foresaw that McKinleyism would come, though he never ceased resisting the tendency. He foresaw, as Lincoln did, the ultimate destruction of the land of liberty, the land both loved so well, unless there was a radical change in the tendencies of their times. Both saw the dire fate in store for our people, and both had sufficient ground for predicting it.

Voices from the past warn the voters of the United States to rouse themselves before it is too late. The accumulated dangers foreseen by Washington and Lincoln and Webster are upon the people of the United States.—Helena Independent.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

——If the republican congress postpones the reduction of the war tax, the people will not postpone the reduction of the republican vote in congress.—Albany Argus.

——If the republican party succeeds in fastening the imperialistic doctrine up on the American people the Declarantion of Independence and the Fourth of July will become a farce.—W. J. Bryan.

——Mr. Bryan is as frank as the platform itself in his expressoins upon this dominant issue of to-day. He recognizes that imperialism overshadows every other question in which the people have concern and threatens the life of the nation.—St. Louis Republic.

——On the question of imperialism and the trusts the country is against the republican party, and if the democrats do not so far oblige their opponents as to push these problems into the background Mr. McKinley is likely to be beaten.—Brooklyn Citizen.

——The McKinley and Roosevelt ticket, amid the cheers which greeted it in Philadelphia, has witnessed its only day of enthusiasm, and from now on must fall into that mediocrity of estimation which attaches to the insufficient and the bungling.—Atlanta Constitution.

——It is a remarkable circumstance that in the midst of all our boasted prosperity this year so far has sown more strikes and shut-downs than for many corresponding periods past McKinley prosperity is too hoggish—it won't distribute itself enough.—Houston Post.

——The republican party demanded that the constitution be amended before the trust question should be grappled with. On the other hand the party made no scruples of violating the constitution for the benefit of the trusts in the Porto Rico question.—Peoria Herald-Transcript.

——When he was nominated four years ago people said it was because of his great speech. They regard him as an accident brought about by well-turned phrases. There is no such feeling now. There is a realization born of four years' life in the most keenly lighted public view, that the man is wedded to the cause of putting the man above the dollar—of restoring fundamental American principles. And that is all anybody wants in any line.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

——Senator Hanna is credited with an intention to send McKinley's published speeches to Gov. Roosevelt. This is deplorable. In that volume Gov. Roosevelt will discover that President McKinley has been unable to state clearly a principle of the currency question. He will discover also that President McKinley is voluble in commonplace. That is a dangerous example to commend to so young a politician as Roosevelt. — Chicago Chronicle.

The Currency Question.

THE INEVITABLE RESULT.

Act of March 14, 1900, Right in Line with Republican Policy of Contraction.

The act of March 14, 1900, it seems to me, is the logical and inevitable result of the success of the party which has adhered to the financial policy engineered by John Sherman for so many years with an eye single to the complete demonetization of the more useful half of constitutional legal tender coined money. Republican monetary legislation has ever been shaped with an eye single to the limitation of the right of the people to have a steady increase in the circulation of the money of the people which alone is available in the payment of all debts under the laws of tender. It has always sought to expand the volume of money that is not full legal tender in the payment of debt.

The "parity" clause of the Sherman law was an absurdity, with a mischievous design cloaked under it; the "parity" clause of the act of 1893 was simply intended to shake the public faith in the standard silver dollar as redemption money, or money that was legal tender in payment of debt. She mainspring of all the movements against silver has been the purpose to enhance the purchasing power of each money unit by reducing the volume of primary money. That was the underlying and unacknowledged motive behind the adoption of the gold standard in England, as it has been in this and other countries.

In the fifties, when the mines of California and Australia were pouring their golden streams into Europe and America, Chevalier and others, in advocating the demonetization of gold, boldly announced as a reason therefor that the rapid augmentation of the volume of primary money meant a reduction of the value of the money unit. The truth of the theory that the value of the dollar (which is only its purchasing power) depends primarily upon the total amount of redemption money, found no one to dispute it until it became necessary to the success of the gold standard doctrine to throw doubt upon it; and then all the wiles of casuistry were brought to bear to persuade the public that the volume of money has nothing to do with its value or purchasing power. The insincerity of this contention was evident enough to the thoughtful mind; and the acts of those who made the plea belied the assertions they were constantly offering to an imperfectly informed people.

The "endless chain" was instituted by Secretary Foster on October 14, 1891. It annulled in effect the laws of congress making the silver dollar a redemption dollar; and it was by the surrender of the government's option to pay the greenbacks and treasury notes in either gold or silver that the national treasury had its vaults opened to the money changers and harpies. From 1878 to 1891 the $346,000,000 greenbacks had occasioned no trouble whatever. During that period they had drawn from the treasury only $34,000,000 gold. The chain was not endless so long as the silver dollars stood in the path of the gold raiders.

The fears excited by the present extraordinary powers placed in the hands of one man by the new currency law are doubtless well founded; yet, with all the authority vested in him by law, I cannot see wherein he can do more mischief than was done by Secretary Foster, not only without warrant of law, but in plain violation of its letter and spirit.

Secretary Foster's work was practically indorsed and made permanent by the policy of Cleveland and Carlisle, and Secretary Gage has made little secret of his intentions, from the first, to carry out to its bitter end the policy inaugurated by his predecessors and carefully planned by John Sherman long prior to the act of 1890—the ultimate extension of the endless chain of redemption in gold to both silver dollars and certificates.

The Sherman law of 1890 was drafted with this end in view. It prepared the way: (1) for the discontinuance of silver coinage; and (2), for the ruling which Secretary Foster made by which greenbacks and treasury notes were practically made gold obligations. In law, the silver dollar has been redemption money since 1878; in fact, it has been robbed of its redemption functions since October, 1891. As between a silver dollar which is not money in the full sense of the word, in fact and law, but depends upon the gold dollar for its circulation and value, and the paper dollar which derives its purchasing power from the self-same source, I see little to choose from.

The difference which the value of silver as commodity imparts is about counterbalanced by the greater cheapness and convenience of the paper currency. Under the policy of the government, since 1891, both have been pseudo moneys, the act of March 14, 1900, only legalizes an already existing evil. The whole scheme is full of iniquities and deserving of thorough ventilation; but that ventilation will not amount to much until the public mind is first made familiar with the nature and functions of real money-redemption money—and the difference between full-powered primary money and the emasculated silver dollar which is no longer anything but mere token money.

It is inevitable that the struggle to secure for the people an increase of legal tender coined money of both kinds will be renewed. The policy of the party which enacted the new currency law must have a reactionary result. That policy has not changed in purpose since the day when its false apostle of money first demanded the abandonment of silver as a money metal of ultimate redemption, and urged that silver dollars coined upon government account should be redeemed in gold coin on demand upon government account should be redeemed in gold coin on demand to maintain their "parity." And, faithful to his teachings, that party has just enacted that the secretary of the treasury shall maintain the "parity" of all forms of money coined or issued by the United States. That this means the ultimate redemption of silver dollars and certificates in gold is undoubted; the secretary now must maintain the "parity" of the silver dollar and of all other forms of money precisely as he has for years maintained the legal tender notes at parity with gold, by exchange of gold on demand.

The republican party has sown the seeds of financial folly, and the whirlwind of business ruin will be the inevitable harvest. I may be deemed a pessimist when I say that in my judgment the reaction from the gold standard, with the demands for an increase of legal tender money to meet the necessities of the people, will be not only a flood of fiat money, but possibly a flood of bloodshed before the question is finally determined. Pray God that my apprehensions be groundless. Yet it seems to me that one of two things must from the very nature of things come to pass in the not remote future. There will be irretrievable industrial slavery; or the acute antagonism (from disastrous changes in the level of prices) between capital and labor will precipitate, throughout Europe and America, scenes which characterized the history of France a little more than a hundred years ago.

That awful catnclysm came through the rejection by the rulers of France of the honest principles of money for the necessities of the people. Its inception was the adoption of the gold standard in 1689 under Louis XIV., when the ratio was suddenly raised from 13.74 to 15.4% followed by the abandonment of silver as redemption money; and later by the abandonment of gold as well, to follow the delusions of John Law. Will it be necessary for this great republic to tread the thorny path of the Bourbons?—L. M. Garrett, in Money.

THE DANGER OF PLUTOCRACY.

Warning Voice of History Should Be Heard and Heeded—Concentration of Wealth.

Surely the rapid development of plutocracy during the last few years will arouse the people to the dangers which threaten our republic. The warning voice of history cannot longer be disregarded. No nation has ever traveled so far, in the same space of time, from democracy to plutocracy as has this nation during the last ten years. Foreign influence, says the National Watchman, described by Washington as "one of the most baneful foes of republican government," has been felt as never before. Fortunes have been made more suddenly than ever before. Wealth has been concentrated in the hands of a few more rapidly than ever before. Corporate capital exerts an influence over government more potent than ever before. Money is more freely used than ever before to corrupt elections. What is to be the end? Can any thoughtful person believe that these conditions promise well for a republic?

Instead of regarding the recent assault upon constitutional government—the attempted overthrow of American principles—as a matter of destiny, we may rather consider it as the last plague, the slaying of the first-born, which will end the bondage of the American people, and bring deliverance from the Pharaohs who are enthroning Mammon and debasing mankind.

How the Standard Is Maintained.

Experience proves that when by law we have two standard dollars—silver and gold—the one which is cheaper in the market expels the other from circulation, so that a single standard results in practice. In 1857, for example, the gold dollar drove out the silver dollar because at that time the gold dollar as bullion was worth 100 cents and the silver dollar was worth as bullion 104 cents. The silver dollars were exported to be melted, the exporter getting a profit of four cents a dollar. No silver dollars remained in circulation. But now that the bullion in a silver dollar is worth little over 45 cents, that dollar, if made a standard and admitted to "free and unlimited" coinage, would expel the gold dollar from circulation. People always "pass off" their worst enemy first.—Baltimore Sun.

The Humpbacked Taxpayer.

President McKinley has occupied the white house a little more than three years. For the same period of time the government has been run by the millionaire plutocrats of the white house syndicate. The humpbacked tax-payer—brother to the man with the hoe—can now take stock and ascertain his condition. Three years of McKinleyism have given this patient man with the hump a government that costs about $250,000 an hour; nearly $6,000,000 a day; more than $40,000,000 a week; almost $150,000,000 a month; in the neighborhood of $2,000,000,000 a year—and yet the patient man with eyes like an ox is not wholly satisfied!—N. Y. Verdict.

Not Like Lincoln.

The Hannaites expect to fool a few republicans by making them belive the party of to-day is the legitimate successor of the party of Lincoln. But they do not expect the number that can be thus deceived to be very large, and they do not expect that men who are base enough to knowingly cast their votes to perpetuate the power of trusts to plunder the American people to do so without demanding a portion of the plunder for themselves. Hence they realize that they must buy a large portion of the votes that the ticket will receive.—National Watchman.

His Only Love.

McJigger—What's the book you're reading?

Chingumbob—It's the story of the only man the author ever loved.

"Ah! it's by a woman, eh?"

"No; by a man. It's his autobiography."—Indianapolis Press.

To the Juvenile Mind.

"Paw," said Tommy, "I don't see why they call it a Turkish bath."

"Why not?"

"Because all the Turks I've ever seen looked as if they never took a bath at all."—Chicago Tribune.

EDITORIAL OPINION.

What Democratic Journalists Think About the Presidential Candidates.

——In this great conflict William J. Bryan goes forth to battle as the champion of the people. We believe he will triumph.—Pittsburgh Post.

——Bryan and Stevenson—anti-imperialism and anti-trusts—compose a combination that will start Mark Hanna to walking the floor.—Louisville Times.

——Whatever may be thought of Bryan's views on the money question, he believes in advocating them. He has the courage of his convictions.—Indianapolis Press (Ind.).

——Undoubtedly the ticket as it stands has a better outlook for success than had the Cleveland ticket when it was nominated in 1892. — Louisville Courier-Journal.

——Bryan's nomination will occasion a deep and earnest feeling of joy and satisfaction—an enthusiasm which will run higher and higher until election day.—Denver News.

——Mr. McKinley should not insert anything about "our plain duty" in his letter of acceptance that the politicians and the trusts are likely to reverse three months later.—Rochester Herald.

——Bryan and Stevenson have the appearance of a winning team. They are both strong men physically and mentally. They are both excellent speakers and both are fighters of the first class.—N. O. Times-Democrat.

——The good man for vice president has been found. Mr. Stevenson is in thorough line with democratic principles, originally and present. He is sound in faith. He is with the people on all questions.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

——The platform is a strong appeal to the intelligence and patriotism of the American people. And with a candidate such as Mr. Bryan the democracy has every reason to confidently look forward to the judgment of the people. —Milwaukee News.

——The ticket will be hailed with acclamation by lovers of freedom everywhere. The one the young tribune of the people, the other a veteran from scenes where democracy had to be tested. With such a ticket Illinois and Indiana will be democratic.—Atlanta Constitution.

——The platform is admirable in its anti-imperial and anti-trust declarations, but sadly, perhaps fatally, defective in its advocacy of free silver coinage at 16 to 1. If Mr. Bryan is defeated in November he will be held responsible for the disaster to his party. —Baltimore Sun.

——There is complete agreement between the candidate and the platform. Both are plainly and convincingly honest and sincere. It is this element of fearless straightforwardness that will tend to attract the independent, unmuzzled vote of the country to the democratic ticket this year.—Washington Times.

——There are thousands of men who voted against Mr. Bryan before who now feel that the country has departed from right principles. As vice president Mr. Stevenson was an ideal officer. Many persons outside the democratic party will be glad to see so fit a man chosen for the high office.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

——The two-day platform struggle at Kansas City is at least unique. The practice of "fooling the people" in party declaration dates from the dawn of politics. It was essayed from the Areopagus of Athens and in the Forum of Rome. But to human knowledge it was never done in public before.—N. Y. Press (Rep.).

——The democratic convention at Kansas City did a good work by adopting a platform broad enough and strong enough to give firm footing to every democrat in the United States. It added to and completed the good work by putting upon the platform an exceptionally strong democratic ticket.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

——Upon their platform, notwithstanding its many serious faults and weaknesses, it is not to be doubted the democrats can make a strong campaign. Events that have carried the republican administration into a wide departure from cherished American traditions have raised opposition where none existed before. — Philadelphia Times (Ind. Rep.).

——Mr. Bryan has received from the democratic party a personal tribute which has no parallel in our political history. No one can doubt that Mr. Bryan has an opportunity to make a more formidable campaign, here and in the eastern states at any rate, than in 1896, when his personality was unknown and grossly misconceived, and when even his patriotism was challenged.—Boston Globe (Ind. Dem.).

——We believe no stronger nomination for second place could have been made, and under existing circumstances it is to be preferred to that of either ex-Gov. Hill or Mr. Towne. It was not necessary to heal any convention sores. It represents no factional defeat or triumph. It stands for no machine or political work. It was a spontaneous tribute to the worth of the man, his services for the democratic party and his eminent fitness for all the duties and possibilities of the office—Pittsburgh Post.

——Upon all phases of all the questions involved in the issue of imperialism the democratic platform is clear, straightforward, admirable. There is no evasion, no juggling. Upon the other great issue, monopoly, the platform is again clear, straightforward, admirable. These comments cover at least 90 per cent. of the platform. But in the remaining ten per cent. lies the rotten spot. And the fact that it has been removed from the surface to a point near the center does not make it less rotten. Deep down through the soundness and sanity lies the free silver plank.—N. Y. World.

——Following the adoption of a national platform upon which all democrats and other Americans who oppose and condemn the un-American policies of the republican party may unite for victory, the Kansas City convention has named, in Bryan and Stevenson, a presidential ticket finely in keeping with its winning platform.—St. Louis Republic.

——Again we have Mr. Bryan, who in the wrestle with the strong and evil forces that menace the welfare of the American people and the existence of American institutions has once touched the earth, but has arisen once again.—Omaha World-Herald.